**1 NAME**

**HISTORIC**
Executive Mansion

**AND/OR COMMON**

**2 LOCATION**

**STREET & NUMBER**
210 North Blount Street

**CITY, TOWN**
Raleigh

**STATE**
North Carolina

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>PRESENT USE</th>
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<td>_PRIVATE</td>
<td>_UNOCCUPIED</td>
<td>_AGRICULTURE</td>
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<td>_WORK IN PROGRESS</td>
<td>_COMMERCIAL</td>
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<td>_SITE</td>
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<td>ACCESSIBLE</td>
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<td>_OBJECT</td>
<td>_IN PROCESS</td>
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<td>_BEING CONSIDERED</td>
<td>_YES: UNRESTRICTED</td>
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**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

**NAME**
State of North Carolina, State Department of Administration

**STREET & NUMBER**
116 West Jones Street

**CITY, TOWN**
Raleigh

**STATE**
North Carolina

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

**COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.**
Wake County Courthouse, Register of Deeds Office

**STREET & NUMBER**
310 Fayetteville Street

**CITY, TOWN**
Raleigh

**STATE**
North Carolina

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

**TITLE**

**DATE**

**DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS**

**CITY, TOWN**
Exterior: The Executive Mansion has the irregularity of plan and massing that is characteristic of the so-called "Queen Anne" style. Its elaborate verandas and covered balconies feature ornately fashioned posts, brackets, and openwork fascias which have a Moorish air, but their form is certainly the result of the influence of the English architect, Charles Eastlake. The house is an irregular cross in plan, a fact which is not immediately evident on the exterior due to the many projecting bays and the verandahs which occur at the intersection of the arms of the cross. The walls are laid in gauged brick with bands of stone trim. The corners of the main section and of the central projecting entrance bay on the west front are enriched by stone quoins. Each window sash consists of one large central pane surrounded by bands of tiny square panes. Due to wear, the original marble steps at the west entrance have been moved to a side entrance. The main pile is two and a half stories above a high basement. The various projecting bays have steeply pitched gables which intersect the high hip roof at right angles. The slate roof is enriched by colored decorative bands. There is a small rectangular cupola on the deck at the summit. Numerous tall chimneys break up the otherwise overpowering expanse of the roof. These are fancifully treated in moulded brick with decorative bands and corbelled courses.

Interior: On the interior, the main floor features a large central stair hall running from west to east. The free standing stair ascends in a long flight to the center of a transverse landing across the width of the eastern end of the hall. On either side of the principal flight short reverse runs of three steps reach the second floor level. The imaginative balustrade of the stair has a heavy mahogany rail below which are balusters connected by openwork panels employing block and sausage turnings. On the south side of the hall (from west to east) are the south parlor, ballroom, and the library. On the north side a secondary hall divides the north parlor from the dining room. Beyond these rooms on the north side are minor rooms and service areas. All of the principal rooms have high wainscot finished with a profusion of small panels. This paneling scheme is repeated in the doors. The walls, cornices, and ceilings have elaborate plaster trim. Mantels of similar design appear in all rooms. The fireplace openings are flanked by monumental consoles which support robust shelves. The second floor, which contains the private quarters of the Governor and his family, is finished in much the same fashion, though less elaborately, as the main floor.
From 1814 until the end of the War Between the States the Governor of North Carolina lived in the "Governor's Palace" on Fayetteville Street in Raleigh. By 1865 years of neglect and the original structural inadequacy of the "Palace" rendered it unsuitable as a residence. From 1865 until the present mansion was completed in 1891 no official residence was provided for North Carolina's chief executive. In 1879, during his second term as governor, Zebulon B. Vance presented the report of a commission appointed two years earlier by the General Assembly to investigate the possibility of providing a suitable residence for the governor. It took four years to find the necessary funds and to select a site. Finally, in 1883, during the administration of Governor Thomas J. Jarvis, a bill was passed authorizing the construction of the official residence on Burke Square. Samuel Sloan of Philadelphia and his assistant, Gustavus Adolphus Bauer, were chosen as the architects. Sloan was a popular architect of the day and the author of several architectural books. His designs for the mansion were accepted on May 7, 1883. Work began in the early summer of the same year with much of the work accomplished by convict labor under the direction of Colonel William G. Hicks, an architect and engineer, and superintendent of the State Prison. The fine gauged bricks were made at the State Prison and the sandstone used as decorative trim was quarried in Anson County. Sloan died in Raleigh in 1884 and Bauer continued to supervise construction. Governor Daniel G. Fowle moved into the mansion on January 5, 1891. As completed the mansion is a fine Victorian house in a restrained version of the "Queen Anne" style with some evidence of the influence of the architecture of Charles L. Eastlake. The omission of curved or shaped projecting bays and the elegant simplicity of the gauged brick work and of the stone trim give the house a special character. This may be the expression of the personal tastes of the architects. Sloan and Bauer designed several other buildings in North Carolina, including the First Memorial Hall at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, in 1883, which Bauer completed after Sloan's death. Bauer also designed the main building of the Baptist Female University (later named Meredith College). These buildings and especially the Executive Mansion were considered the epitome of good taste at the time and they influenced the design of many other late Victorian buildings in North Carolina. For example, the similarity of the Mansion to the Hawkins-Hartness House ca. 1885 (now owned by the State of North Carolina and used for offices) at 310 North Blount Street is unmistakable. Since 1891 the Executive Mansion has been the official residence of North Carolina's governors. On official visits, Presidents Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin D.
Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman, and Lyndon Johnson have all been entertained there. It has been the scene of many other important political and social events and, as such, is an integral part of the state's heritage.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET)

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY

UTM REFERENCES

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

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<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
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FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Jack Zehner, Survey Specialist, and Sherry Ingram, Survey Assistant

ORGANIZATION
North Carolina Department of Archives and History

STREET & NUMBER
109 East Jones Street

CITY OR TOWN
Raleigh

STATE
North Carolina

DATE
April 22, 1970

TELEPHONE

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL ___

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Wake County Records, Wake County Courthouse, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Wake County Records, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.
